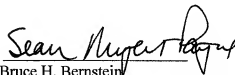


REMARKS

By the above amendment, claims 1-18 are currently pending. Claims 1-6 and 8-11 have been amended to delete multiple claim dependency and/or to render the claim language in conformance with proper U.S. patent practice and idiomatic English. Claims 12-18 have been added as a result of rendering the multiple dependent claims into single dependent claims. Support for the newly added claims can be found in the originally filed claims. Applicants note that no new matter has been added and that the amendments made herein have not been made to overcome any prior art. Thus, the amendments should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Ikue MORI et al


Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027 42,920

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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191